

**PODIATRY  
LICENSING BOARD**

**August 16, 2005**

**CONDUCTING:** Steven R. Jones

**CONVEINED:** 8:15 a.m.

**ADJOURNED:** 9:35 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Steven R Jones  
Michael Lowe  
Glenn S. Gold

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Suzanne Ferry

**DIVISION STAFF:** Craig Jackson, Division Director  
Diana Baker, Bureau Manager  
Penny Vogeler, Board Secretary

**ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS**

Approval of May 17, 2005

**DECISIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Minutes approved as written.

**BOARD BUSINESS:**

Ms. Baker notified the Board that the Division is in the process of having a new Board member approved through the Governor's office. This person should be in attendance at the next Podiatry meeting.

**PROBATION INTERVIEW:  
Michael Kotter**

Dr. Kotter came before the board and was accompanied by Mr. Peter Stirba, his attorney. Dr. Kotter is **in compliance** with the terms of his order. Ms Baker discussed the supervisor report and having

both a Hospital Administrator as well as Dr. Kotter's office manager complete the report and submit it to the Division.

Mr. Stirba addressed the Board and stated he felt there was a misunderstanding between his office and the Division. Mr. Stirba represents that alcohol abuse was not an issue from the initial problem in Diversion. He asked the Board if they would consider allowing Dr. Kotter to consume alcohol and if he complies with the law. Ms. Baker pointed out that alcohol abuse created the situation that finally terminated Diversion and began the Probation status.

Dr. Kotter had signed an agreement stating he would completely abstain from the personal use or possession of mood-altering substances, including alcohol.

Dr. Gold stated that the alcohol was an issue along with other drugs taken together. He suggested that he stay away from alcohol and addressed the cross over between alcohol and drug addiction.

Mr. Stirba felt that Dr. Kotter has shown a change in behavior and should be allowed to have a glass of wine. He asked that this matter be re visited.

Ms. Baker does not recall lifting alcohol from a stipulation. The feelings of the Board are that the 12-step program is asked for as part of the recovery process and not just a hoop to jump through as part of the probation. It was the decision of the Board to give it some more time and stressed the reference of alcohol and addiction. They feel if substance abuse tendencies are present alcohol is a contributing factor.

Dr. Lowe asked Dr. Kotter about the teachings of the 12-step program and what the 12-step program would say about alcohol. Dr. Kotter answered that would it would not be allowed as part of the twelve-step program.

**Next Board Meeting:**

**Nov 15, 2005**

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**Steven Jones, Chairman**

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**Date**

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**Diana Baker, Bureau Manager**

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**Date**